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EXPANSION OF POSTAL, TELEPHONE, TELEGRAPH,
AND RADIOFICATION FACILITIES IN BULGARIA

NEW TELEPHONE LINE PLANNED IN VRATSA -- Sofia, Poshtenets, [organ of the Ministry of PTT (Post, Telephone, and Telegraph) and of the trade union of PTT employees], Jan 51

Vratsa [Okrug] is planning the construction of an 8-kilometer telephone line between Lyutadzhik and Dolno Ozirovo during 1951. (1)

MINISTER REPORTS ON 1950 DEVELOPMENTS -- Sofia, Poshtenets, Feb 51

In a report made in February 1951, Tsola Dragoycheva, Minister of PTT (Post, Telephone and Telegraph), stated that, during 1950, 91 new telegraph and post offices and 1,345 kilometers of new postal routes were established. A total of 149 villages newly acquired postal service, and 50 new telegraph and 462 new telephone channels were established. About 10,000 new city telephone posts /Booths/ were established and 260 additional villages were given telephone communications. Some 3,600 overhead communication lines were erected, and 10,000 kilometers of wires were improved /repaired?/. Exchanges with 20,000 telephones and associated cable networks were put in operation.

RADIOFICATION PROGRESS -- Sofia, Foshtenets, Sep 51

At the end of 1950, in accordance with a decree of the Council of Ministers, the wire radiofication service of the Main Directorate for Radio Information was transferred to the Ministry of PTT (Post, Telephone and Telegraph). At the time the Ministry of PTT was reorganized in 1951, a Radiofication Directorate (Direktsiya radiofikatsiya) was established in the ministry for the mass wire radiofication of Bulgarian villages.

Bulgarian wire radiofication began during 1947, when the USSR supplied complex radio amplifier installations to such towns as Knezha, Dimitrovo, and Eyalta Slatina. However, planned radiofication did not begin until 1951, when

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amplifier installations and equipment were standardized and produced in Bulgaria by the "K. Voroshilov" Plant of the "Elprom" (Electrical Industry /Enterprise/) and by the "Radioprom" (Radio Industry /Enterprise/) of the Main Directorate for Radio Information.

The "K. Voroshilov" Plant produces radio receivers, all types of loud-speakers (including ones for homes, halls, and streets), and all types of radio parts, except tubes. Radio amplifier installations are chiefly made with Soviet tubes and sometimes with Hungarian or Czech tubes.

By the end of 1951, the number of radiofied villages will be almost twice as great as during the period 1947 - 1950.

Radiofication proceeds in two directions: (a) mass radiofication of homes by means of wired radio speakers (radiotochka); installation of speakers on streets, squares, and parks; installation of speakers at meetings, demonstrations, and assemblies; and installation of speakers in reading rooms and halls; (b) radiofication by the installation of speakers in enterprises, establishments, plants, factories, schools, military barracks, rest homes, and DZS (state farms) for the purpose of broadcasting messages.

Until 1 January 1951, people's soviets were in charge of village radiofication; however, by Decree No 2768 of the Ministry of PTT, the Radiofication Directorate of the Ministry of PTT was put in charge of all radio stations and networks.

A large percentage of listeners are illegal listeners, [chernoslushashti; literally, black listeners] according to information from the Main Directorate for Radio Information. These listeners are persons who own and use radio receivers and home loud-speakers without paying the necessary state taxes via PTT offices. The "special service," which is in charge of seeking out such persons, and PTT offices, which must collect these taxes, are primarily responsible for this bad situation.

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